2. Fraud and Cheating

(a) billing of vehicles actually owned by ITDC.

(b) dual employment.

(c) cheating of a foreign guest through visa credit card.

(d) acceptance of stolen travellers cheques.

3. Purchase and Contract

(a) purchase of sub-standarad stoneware crockery.

(b) purchase of equipments.

(c) award to contract for cleaning/servicing of cooking gas burners.

(d) award of contract for Master Antenna T.V.

(e) acceptance of illegal gratification for approving supplies at Ashok Yatri Niwas.

These cases date between May, 1989 to January, 1995.

(c), (d) and (f) No, Sir. The present CMD was appointed for a period of 2 years w.e.f. 1-10-1992 subject to the condition that his performance will be reviewed after one year for considering further continuance. Decision on his continuance it still under consideration. Meanwhile his tenure has been extended upto 31st March, 1995.

(e) CVC referred 13 complaints against CMD, ITDC to the Department of Tourism. Out of these 13 cases, comments on 3 complaints have already been sent to CVC. In one case the CVC accepted the finding of the Department of Tourism that no corruption was made out against the CMD in his earlier capacity as General Manager, Ashok Hotel but that an administrative lapse was involved. This case has since been closed with the issue of an administrative cautionary memo to CMD. In the other 2 cases the Department of Tourism has found nothing wrong in what the CMD has done but CVC is yet to take a view. The remaining 10 cases are under process.

Vayudoot Service for Punjab

149. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vayudoot Service for Punjab Sector has been discontinued;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when it is likely to be resumed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Vayudoot operations in Northern Region, from its Delhi base were discontinued with effect from October 1993 due to commercial and operational constraints;

(c) Vayudoot has no immediate plans to resume operations in the Northern Region.

Seminar on Air Safety Norms

150. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether an International Seminar on Air Safety Norms was held at New Delhi recently:

(b) if so, whether the experts participated in the seminar have stressed the need to ensure air safety;

(c) if so, the details of the point discussed in the seminar and the outcome thereof;

(d) whether Government have taken any steps to ensure air safety norms; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) An International Seminar on Flight Safety was held in New Delhi during 6-10 February, 1995.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The discussions mainly related to flight operations, airworthiness, accident/incident prevention and investigation, co-operation in matters relating to air safety etc.

(d) and (e) Steps such as implementation of recommendations emanating from investigation of aircraft accidents, monitoring of flight recorders, dissemination of safety information, periodic inspection of aerodromes, implementation of measures for eradication of bird menace, safety audit of airlines, etc. are taken to ensure observance of air safety norms.

Upgradation of Airports

151. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a study conducted under a FICCI-USAID project, 35 Airports throughout India need to be upgraded; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The Government has not received any such report on upgradation of airports.

Rationalisation of dollar fares

152. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to rationalise the dollar fares of the Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the revised fares?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines proposes to re-fix its dollar fare at 15 per cent above the rupee fares (including Passenger Service Fee and Inland Air Travel Tax) for each sector. The average increase in the Dollar fare would be around 6 per cent.

Flights on remote air routes

153. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether private operators are unwilling to serve many remote air routes;

(b) if so, what are the facts in this regard;

(c) whether Indian Airlines is willing to serve the remote and uneconomical routes provided they are suitably compensated for the losses due to such flights; and

(d) is so, what are the details in this regard and what action Government have taken or propose to take to ensure flights on the remote or uneconomical routes?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) All scheduled airlines (including private airlines have to provide 10 per cent of the available seat kilometers (ASK) offered in major routes (connecting major cities by non stop flights) on services to North East, J&K, Andamans and Lakshdweep.